

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 56782W0003	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 02/ 36923	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/11/2002	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 19/12/2001
Applicant 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 05 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

_____ 1 _____
☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 02/ 36923

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Described is a polymeric coextruded multilayer web, the web comprising: at least two layers that are discontinuous in the cross-web direction, each layer comprising a plurality of distinct phases that are substantially continuous in the down-web direction; and at least one layer that is substantially continuous in both the cross-web and down-web directions; wherein said web has an x-axis that is in the cross-web direction of the web, a y-axis that is in the down-web direction of the web and a z-axis that is in the thickness direction of the web, and wherein the substantially continuous layer(s) has less weld lines in the y-z plane of the web than in the x-axis.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 02/36923

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B32B3/18 B32B27/00 B29C47/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B32B B29C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A Y	WO 92 12857 A (DOW CHEMICAL CO) 6 August 1992 (1992-08-06) page 30, line 25-33 page 26, line 5-10-29 -page 27, line 27-29 page 24, line 36 -page 25, line 7-14-25-30 page 14-15 -page 18, line 30-34 page 10, line 19-24 -page 13, line 26-33	1-3, 12, 13 9-11 4, 6
A	page 8, line 22-33 -page 9, paragraph 1; claims 1,3,4,6,7; figures 3,8 ---	4
Y	US 5 605 717 A (SIMMONS GEORGE R ET AL) 25 February 1997 (1997-02-25) column 3, line 60-62 -column 6, line 4-12-36; claims 1,3 --- -/--	4, 6



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 April 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/05/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Derz, T

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 02/36923

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 3 759 647 A (SCHRENK W ET AL) 18 September 1973 (1973-09-18) column 8, line 40-57 -column 3, line 20-30; figures 11,,3 ----	1-3,7 4
X	DE 39 40 237 A (INT PATENTMANAGEMENT CORP) 6 June 1991 (1991-06-06) claims 1,5; figures 2,5 ----	1-3
X	US 5 110 669 A (DUBOUCHET CHRISTIAN ET AL) 5 May 1992 (1992-05-05) column 3, line 70 -column 4, line 10; figure 7 column 10, line 60 -column 11, line 17; claims 1-5,8-14 ----	1
X	US 3 982 877 A (WYETH NATHANIEL CONVERS ET AL) 28 September 1976 (1976-09-28) column 12, line 45-65; claim 1; figures 2-4 ----	1-3
A	WO 95 16754 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) 22 June 1995 (1995-06-22) page 7-11 -page 13, line 20-23; claims 1-11; figure 1 -----	1-4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 02/36923

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9212857	A	06-08-1992	US 5217794 A	08-06-1993
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